

COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE GENERIC NAME *CRATENA* BERGH, 1864, IN ORDER TO VALIDATE THE GENERIC NAME *RIZZOLIA* TRINCHESE, 1877. Z.N.(S.) 1105
(see present volume, pages 50-51)

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I should like to make an objection to the proposed suppression of the generic name *Cratena* Bergh, 1864. The type of *Cavolinia* Bruguière, 1791 being *Doris peregrina* Gmelin, 1791, by subsequent designation of Gray, 1847, the next available name *Cratena* Bergh, an objective synonym, would become the valid name for this group of nudibranchs on the suppression of Bruguière's name under the ruling requested in Z.N.(S.) 1103. The correct type-species of *Cratena* was brought to the notice of malacologists over twenty years ago by Winckworth in the publication referred to by Dr. Lemche, and there is no reason why subsequent workers should not have adopted his conclusions. Recently this view has been endorsed by Macnae, 1954. It is hardly just to those workers who endeavour to apply correct nomenclatural procedures to suspend the rules in favour of those who persistently disregard not only the Code but also the published findings of their colleagues. The present confusion in this group has resulted partly from the primitive state of the taxonomy and partly from inattention to such essentials as the correct type-species of the genera involved. We cannot hope to alter any confusion which has prevailed in the past history of the names, whatever action we may now take; we can only attempt to prevent further confusion in the future. In this present case, confusion would be better resolved by a more rigid application of the Code rather than by suspension of the names in current use. Winckworth and Macnae have clearly established the correct usage for the name *Cratena* and it is that usage which should now be ratified; there is no need to revert to any other concept. In the interests of stability it only remains for the Commission to place the names *Cratena* and CRATENIDAE on the appropriate Official Lists. With CRATENIDAE based on *Cratena* Bergh, 1864, rather than on *Cratena* auctt. non Bergh, it will not compete with the taxa TERGIPEDIDAE and CUTHONIDAE from which it is taxonomically distinct [see Z.N.(S.) 1044]. If this alternative proposal is accepted, I would further suggest that the generic name *Rizzolia* Trinchese, 1877, be placed on the Official Index as a junior objective synonym of *Cratena* Bergh, 1864.

In conclusion, in view of what has been written above, I beg leave to submit the following alternative proposals for the consideration of the International Commission:

- (1) to place the family-group name CRATENINAE Bergh in Carus, 1889 (type-genus *Cratena* Bergh, 1864), on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology;
- (2) to place the generic name *Cratena* Bergh, 1864 (gender : feminine), type-species by original designation *Doris peregrina* Gmelin, 1791, on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the specific name *peregrina* Gmelin, 1791, as published in the binomen *Doris peregrina* (type-species of *Cratena* Bergh, 1864), on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology;
- (4) to place the generic name *Rizzolia* Trinchese, 1877 (a junior objective synonym of *Cratena* Bergh, 1864), on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology.